

housing means defining at least a portion of said at least one mounting pathway; and

support means for engaging said at least one mounting pathway defined by said device means, for engaging said equipment cabinet means, and for extending substantially transversely between first and second sides of said equipment cabinet, said support means supporting said device means within said at least one device opening defined by said equipment cabinet means.

10 16. (Amended) A rack-mount storage system, comprising:
an equipment cabinet having a first side and a second side, said equipment cabinet defining at least one device opening therein;

15 a first device sized to be received by the device opening, said first device having a chassis sized to receive at least one component of said first device, a portion of the chassis defining at least a portion of a first mounting pathway; and

20 a support spar sized to be received by the first mounting pathway and to engage said equipment cabinet, said support spar engaging the first mounting pathway and said equipment cabinet, said support spar extending substantially transversely between the first and second sides of said equipment cabinet to support said first device in said equipment cabinet.

R E M A R K S

30 The specification and abstract are amended. Claims 1, 7, and 14-16 are amended. Claims 2-6, 8-13, and 17-21 stand as originally filed. Re-examination and reconsideration are requested.

To facilitate entry of the amendment to the abstract, specification, and claims, please find attached hereto a marked-

up version of the changes made by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

5 In the office action, paper number 3, dated May 23, 2002, the examiner objected to the abstract as containing "phrases which can be implied." The examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons stated in the office action. The examiner rejected claims 1, 9, 11, and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Cherry, U.S. Patent No. 4,191,436 ("Cherry") and under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Byrne, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,205,029 B1 ("Byrne"). The examiner also rejected claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-19, and 21 under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Whiten, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,806,417 ("Whiten"). The examiner rejected claims 5, 6, 10, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Whiten in view of Robertson, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,788,091 ("Robertson") for the reasons stated in the office action.

15 Applicants believe that none of the currently-pending claims are anticipated by or obvious over the cited references and respectfully traverse the examiner's rejections for the reasons that will be set forth below.

Re the Section 112 rejections:

25 In the office action, the examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, stating that claims 1 and 14-16 "appear to be misleading or/and misdescriptive because the claims set forth the device and the chassis as two separate structures." With respect to claims 2 and 3, the examiner stated that "an apparatus is supposed to be defined by what it is and not suppose [sic] to define by what it is not." In addition, it appears that it is the examiner's position that claim 15 does not meet the requirements of Section 112, sixth paragraph. Each of these issues is addressed separately below.

30 With respect to the first issue (i.e., claims 1 and 14-16),

the examiner has taken the position that these claims are "misleading or/and misdescriptive" because they set forth the device and chassis as two separate structures. Applicants respectfully observe that the examiner's rejections are without merit. While it is true that the claims at issue set forth the device and chassis as two separate structure, the specification and drawings describe the device (e.g., 16 and 36) and the chassis (e.g., 48 and 79) as two separate components. See, for example, Figures 2, 3, and 6 and the description at page 5, lines 27-31; page 13, lines 23-26; and page 18, lines 1-4. The examiner's statement that "the device itself is the chassis" mischaracterizes the invention and substitutes the examiner's incorrect understanding of the claimed structure for that which is specifically shown and described in the specification, and claimed in the present invention. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the examiner to reconsider and remove his Section 112 rejections because the claims are in fact directed to structure that is specifically disclosed in the specification.

In supporting his rejections of claim 1 and 14-16, the examiner also takes the position that it is unclear "what specific structure does the term 'device' requires? [sic]." The term "device" requires no specific structure because none is set forth in the claims at issue. As described in the specification, the device may comprise any of a wide range of systems or components that may be mounted within the storage system 10. What is required is that the "device" (e.g., 16) be provided with a "chassis" (e.g., 48).

The examiner also makes much of the fact that no specific structure/orientation is required by the term "pathway." Applicants are uncertain as to how to respond to this statement. The pathway is not necessarily an element per-se, thus cannot be positively recited. Rather, the pathway is defined by surrounding structure. In the case of claims 1, 14, and 15, the pathway is defined by the first device. In claim 16, a portion of the pathway is defined by at least a portion of the chassis.

The manner of setting forth the term "pathway" in claims 1 and 14-16 is analogous to the commonly-used manner of setting forth a "hole" in a patent claim. That is, in claim drafting practice, particularly past practice, elements such as holes were not claimed positively, but rather by the elements which defined them. That is, a person having ordinary skill in the art will readily apprehend the meaning of the claim term "pathway" even though it is not positively recited, but rather by the element(s) which defines it. Therefore, applicants respectfully request the examiner to remove his Section 112 rejections in this regard.

In summation, because claims 1 and 14-16 are directed to a structural configuration that is specifically described and shown in the specification and drawings, and because persons having ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that the claims are directed to apparatus wherein the device and chassis are two separate components, and that the device or chassis defines the mounting pathway or at least a portion of the mounting pathway, claims 1 and 14-16 are sufficiently definite as a matter of law. Therefore, applicants respectfully request the examiner to remove his section 112 rejections of claims 1 and 14-16.

Turning now to the second issue, i.e., whether claims 2 and 3 are indefinite under Section 112, it is the position of the applicants that, in the context of these claims, it is entirely proper to claim the invention by what it is not, rather than by what it is. More specifically, claim 2 further defines the invention by requiring that the support spar "not extend downwardly beyond the bottom surface of said first chassis." Similarly, claim 3 further defines the invention by requiring that the support spar "not extend upwardly beyond the top surface of said first chassis." MPEP Section 2173.05(i) specifically allows this practice, and states:

"The current view of the courts is that there is nothing inherently ambiguous or uncertain about a

negative limitation. So long as the boundaries of the patent protection sought are set forth definitely, albeit negatively, the claim complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph."

5 Moreover, this negative limitation is specifically set forth in the "Detailed Description of the Invention" section of the specification, as is required by MPEP 2173.05(i). See, for example, page 5, lines 20-22:

10 "That is, the arrangement is such that the support spar 20 does not extend downwardly beyond the bottom surfaces 24 and 82 of the respective devices 16 and 36."

Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 2 and 3 are sufficiently definite under Section 112.

15 With regard to claim 15, the examiner has taken the position that claim 15 does not meet the requirements of Section 112, sixth paragraph, for means-plus-function claims. Applicants respectfully disagree. Each of the elements of claim 15 are recited as a "means for" performing some function. For example,
20 "equipment cabinet means for defining at least one device opening" states an element i.e., the "equipment cabinet" as well as the function of the element "defining at least one device opening." Similarly, "device means for defining at least one mounting pathway therein. . ." also recites an element i.e., the
25 "device" as well as the function of the element "defining at least one mounting pathway therein." Because claim 15 recites elements and defines those elements by the function they perform, claim 15 meets the requirements of Section 112, sixth paragraph.

Applicants would also like to note for the record that none
30 of these Section 112 rejections were previously raised by the examiner even though the substantially identical claims (with the exception of claims 16-21) were previously presented and examined by the examiner in the parent application.

Legal Standard For Rejecting Claims
Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103

The standard for lack of novelty, that is, for "anticipation," under 35 U.S.C. §102 is one of strict identity. To anticipate a claim for a patent, a single prior source must contain all its essential elements. Hybritech, Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc., 231 USPQ 81, 90 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Invalidity for anticipation requires that all of the elements and limitations of the claims be found within a single prior art reference. Scripps Clinic & Research Foundation v. Genentech, Inc., 18 USPQ2d 1001 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Furthermore, functional language, preambles, and language in "whereby," "thereby," and "adapted to" clauses cannot be disregarded. Pac-Tec, Inc. v. Amerace Corp., 14 USPQ2d 1871 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

The test for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is whether the claimed invention would have been obvious to those skilled in the art in light of the knowledge made available by the reference or references. In re Donovan, 184 USPQ 414, 420, n. 3 (CCPA 1975). It requires consideration of the entirety of the disclosures of the references. In re Rinehart, 189 USPQ 143, 146 (CCPA 1976). All limitations of the claims must be considered. In re Boe, 184 USPQ 38, 40 (CCPA 1974). In making a determination as to obviousness, the references must be read without benefit of applicants' teachings. In re Meng, 181 USPQ 94, 97 (CCPA 1974). In addition, the propriety of a Section 103 rejection is to be determined by whether the reference teachings appear to be sufficient for one of ordinary skill in the relevant art having the references before him to make the proposed substitution, combination, or other modifications. In re Lintner, 173 USPQ 560, 562 (CCPA 1972).

A basic mandate inherent in Section 103 is that a piecemeal reconstruction of prior art patents shall not be the basis for a holding of obviousness. It is impermissible within the framework of Section 103 to pick and choose from any one

reference only so much of it as will support a given position, to the exclusion of other parts necessary to the full appreciation of what such reference fairly suggests to one of ordinary skill in the art. In re Kamm, 172 USPQ 298, 301-302 (CCPA 1972). Put somewhat differently, the fact that the inventions of the references and of the applicants may be directed to concepts for solving the same problem does not serve as a basis for arbitrarily choosing elements from references to attempt to fashion applicants' claimed invention. In re Donovan, 184 USPQ 414, 420 (CCPA 1975).

In the case of In re Wright, 6 USPQ2d 1959 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (restricted on other grounds by In re Dillon, 16 USPQ2d 1897 (Fed. Cir. 1990), the CAFC decided that the Patent Office had improperly combined references which did not suggest the properties and results of the applicants' invention nor suggest the claimed combination as a solution to the problem which applicants' invention solved. The CAFC reached this conclusion after an analysis of the prior case law, at p. 1961:

"We repeat the mandate of 35 U.S.C. §103: it is the invention as a whole that must be considered in obviousness determinations. The invention as a whole embraces the structure, its properties, and the problem it solves. See, e.g., Cable Electric Products, Inc. v. Genmark, Inc., 770 F.2d 1015, 1025, 226 USPQ 881, 886 (Fed. Cir. 1985) ("In evaluating obviousness, the hypothetical person of ordinary skill in the pertinent art is presumed to have the 'ability to select and utilize knowledge from other arts reasonably pertinent to [the] particular problem' to which the invention is directed"), quoting In re Angle, 444 F.2d 1168, 1171-72, 170 USPQ 285, 287-88 (CCPA 1971); In re Antonie, 559 F.2d 618, 619, 195 USPQ 6, 8 (CCPA 1977) ("In delineating the invention as a whole, we look not only at the claim in question... but also to those properties of the subject matter which are inherent in the subject matter and are disclosed in the Specification") (emphasis in original).

The determination of whether a novel structure is or is not "obvious" requires cognizance of the properties of that structure and the problem which it solves, viewed in light of the teachings of the prior art. See, e.g., In re Rinehart, 531 F.2d 1048, 1054,

189 USPQ 143, 149 (CCPA 1976) (the particular problem facing the inventor must be considered in determining obviousness); see also Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist and Derrick Co., 730 F.2d 1452, 1462, 221 USPQ 481, 488 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (it is error to focus "solely on the product created, rather than on the obviousness or notoriousness of its creation") (quoting General Motors Corp. v. U.S. Int'l Trade Comm'n, 687 F.2d 476, 483, 215 USPQ 484, 489 (CCPA 1982), cert. denied, 459 U.S. 1105 (1983)).

Thus the question is whether what the inventor did would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art attempting to solve the problem upon which the inventor was working. Rinehart, 531 F.2d at 1054, 189 USPQ at 149; see also In re Benno, 768 F.2d 1340, 1345, 226 USPQ 683, 687 (Fed. Cir. 1985) ("appellant's problem" and the prior art present different problems requiring different solutions").

A reference which teaches away from the applicants' invention may not properly be used in framing a 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of applicants' claims. See United States v. Adams, 148 USPQ 429 (1966).

Argument:

Summary of Argument:

None of Cherry, Byrne, nor Whiten disclose all of the elements and limitations contained in the currently-pending claims. Consequently, none of these references anticipate the currently-pending claims. With regard to the examiner's obviousness rejections, neither Whiten nor Robertson provide the suggestion or incentive required to modify them in the manner set forth by the currently-pending claims. Accordingly, the examiner has also failed to establish the required *prima-facie* case of obviousness.

Re The Rejections of Claims 1, 9, 11, and 13-16:

The examiner rejected claims 1, 9, 11, and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Cherry. These rejections

are improper in that, contrary to the examiner's assertions, Cherry fails to disclose a support spar that extends substantially transversely between first and second sides of an equipment cabinet. Therefore, Cherry cannot anticipate claims
5 1, 9, 11, and 13-16.

Each of claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 14, and 16 requires at least "a support spar" that extends "substantially transversely between first and second sides" of the equipment cabinet. In supporting his rejections, the examiner has taken the position that Cherry's
10 channels 16 are analogous to the support spar element of the claims. However, Cherry's channels 16 do not extend "substantially transversely between first and second sides" of the equipment cabinet. Instead, Cherry's channels extend from front to back on each side of Cherry's frame. Because Cherry
15 does not meet at least this limitation, Cherry cannot anticipate any of claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 14, and 16.

Claim 15 requires at least "support spar means . . . for extending substantially transversely between first and second sides" of the equipment cabinet. Here again, at least because
20 Cherry's channels 16 do not extend "substantially transversely between first and second sides" of the equipment cabinet, Cherry cannot anticipate claim 15.

Re the Rejections of Claims 1, 9, 11, and 13-16:

The examiner rejected claims 1, 9, 11, and 13-16 under 35
25 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Byrne. These rejections are improper because Byrne does not meet many of the limitations of the currently-pending claims. Indeed, the rationale stated by the examiner in support of his rejections appears to evidence an unwillingness to give weight to the various limitations set
30 forth in the claims. For example, the examiner takes the position that Byrne's device 315 defines a pathway between members 317 and 319, and that these receive a "support spar" 305. First, Byrne's element 305 is not a support spar, as argued by the examiner, but is rather is described by Byrne as a "parallel

pair of conductors" or a "bus bar." See, for example, col. 7, lines 3-8 of the Byrne reference. Moreover, Byrne's parallel pair of conductors 305 does not and cannot support Byrne's device (a power supply) 315. Indeed, Byrne specifically states that the devices 315 are supported by shelves 150. See for example, col 5, lines 46-48:

"The plurality of shelves 150 provide support for the plurality of power supply modules 115 coupled to the bus bar assembly 120."

Clearly, Byrne's shelves 150 are not the same as his bus bar 305. With regard to the Figure 3 embodiment (relied on by the examiner), the shelves are not shown, but Byrne clearly requires their presence to support the devices 315. See col. 7, lines 15-17. Significantly, nowhere does Byrne disclose, or even suggest, that a support spar might be used to support the various devices mounted within the frame. This is because Byrne instead uses shelves (e.g., 150) to support his devices. Such shelves require additional height, something the present invention expressly teaches against. See, for example, page 9, lines 16-29 of the present invention.

In summation then, Byrne cannot anticipate any of claims 1, 9, 11, 13, and 14 because Byrne does not disclose a "support spar." In addition, because Byrne does not disclose a support spar, Byrne also does not meet the limitation that the support spar extend "substantially transversely between first and second sides" of the equipment cabinet. Because at least these elements and limitations are not met by Byrne, Byrne cannot anticipate claims 1, 9, 11, 13, and 14.

Claim 15 is also not anticipated by Byrne because Byrne does not disclose at least "support spar means . . . for extending substantially transversely between first and second sides of said equipment cabinet." Byrne also fails to disclose a "support spar means" that supports "said device means within said at least one device opening" defined by the equipment cabinet (Byrne's bus bar

315 cannot support his power supply).

Re the Rejections of Claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-19, and 21:

5 The examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-19, and 21 under
Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Whiten. These rejections
are improper in that Whiten fails to disclose at least "a first
device having a chassis sized to receive at least one component
of said first device" as is specifically required by claims 1-4,
7-9, 11-14, 16-19, and 21. In supporting his rejections, the
examiner has taken the position that Whiten's tracks 58 are
10 "devices." However, Whiten's tracks 58 do not have a "chassis
that is sized to receive at least one component of said first
device." Because Whiten's tracks 58 do not meet the specific
limitations of the "device" recited in the claims, Whiten cannot
anticipate any of claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-14, 16-19, and 21.

15 Claim 15 requires that "said device means" have "housing
means for housing at least one component of said device means."
Here again, Whiten does not meet this limitation. That is,
Whiten's tracks 58 do not include "housing means for housing at
least one component of said device means," as specifically
20 required by claim 15. Therefore, Whiten cannot anticipate claim
15.

Re the Rejections of Claims 5, 6, 10, and 20:

25 The examiner rejected claims 5, 6, 10, and 20 under
U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Whiten and Robertson for the
reasons stated in the office action. The applicants respectfully
observe that the examiner's rejections are improper in that
neither reference provides the suggestion or incentive required
to combine the references in a manner that would make obvious the
currently-pending claims.

30 The Whiten patent is directed to a shelf-mounting assembly
for dispensing bottles. Robertson discloses a bottle-dispensing
system having an attraction device 160 that is activated when the

bottles are removed. The attraction device 160 includes a sound generator, a light emitter, a scent emitter, and/or a mechanical movement device to attract attention to the dispensing system when in use. Presumably, both devices (i.e., those disclosed by Whiten and Robertson) are effective and functional for their intended purposes. Therefore, there is no need, thus no suggestion or incentive, to combine them together. Stated another way, neither reference provides the motivation required to pick and choose certain elements from each reference and combine them together in the manner described by the currently-pending claims.

With regard to claim 5, even if it were proper to combine Robertson and Whiten, the resulting combination still would not meet the limitations in claim 5 which require, by virtue of its dependency from claim 1, that the device have a "first chassis sized to receive at least one component of said first device." Therefore, any combination of Robertson and Whiten cannot make obvious claim 5.

With regard to claim 6, Robertson does not disclose a "curved support spar" having a center that is higher than the two ends. While the examiner takes the position that Robertson's outer round tube 46 makes the center of Robertson's transverse member 26 higher than the ends, this is not the same as a "curved support spar" recited in claim 6. Therefore, even if Robertson and Whiten were combined, the resulting combination still would not meet this limitation of claim 6. Claim 6 is not obvious over Robertson and Whiten.

In addition, while Robertson discloses an outer round tube 46, the purpose of the outer round tube 46 is to provide the transverse member 26 with a telescoping function so that the transverse member 26 may be used on racks having different front post distances. See, col. 4, lines 65-67 of Robertson. This is not the same as the sleeve recited in claim 10 which provides a spacing function to hold the "first device against the first side of the device opening," as required by claims 10 and 20.

Therefore, claims 10 and 20 are not made obvious by Robertson and Whiten.

5 The case of In re Fritch, 23 USPQ2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992) is instructive as to the obviousness issues in the currently-pending application. In reversing the rejections of the patent examiner and the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, the Federal Circuit stated that it was not sufficient that the various prior art references disclosed the various elements of the claimed device, or even that it would be possible to combine
10 the various elements in the manner of the claimed invention. Rather, the court reiterated that:

15 "Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion supporting the combination. Under section 103, teachings of the references can be combined **only** if there is some suggestion to do so. Although couched in terms of combining teachings found in the prior art, the same inquiry must be carried out in the
20 context of a purported obvious 'modification' of the prior art. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested by the Examiner does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification." Id.
25 at 1783. (Emphasis in original, citations omitted).

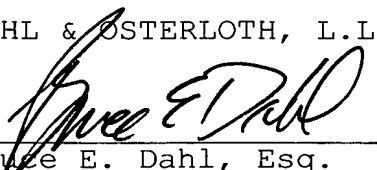
The holding of Fritch is dispositive of the obviousness issues in this case. That is, Fritch compels a finding of non-obviousness where, as here, the prior art does not suggest the desirability of any modification or combination that would make
30 obvious the currently-pending claims. Stated another way, even if Whiten and Robertson could be modified to make obvious the currently-pending claims, these references still cannot make obvious the currently-pending claims since neither reference taken alone or together, suggests the desirability of the
35 modifications. Therefore, claims 5, 6, 10, and 20 are not made obvious by Whiten and Robertson.

Applicants believe that all of the claims now pending in

this patent application are allowable and that all other issues raised by the examiner have been rectified. Therefore, applicants respectfully request the examiner to reconsider his rejections and to grant an early allowance. If any questions or issues remain to be resolved, the examiner is requested to contact the applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DAHL & OSTERLOTH, L.L.P.



Bruce E. Dahl, Esq.
Attorney for Applicants
PTO Registration No. 33,670
555 17th Street, Suite 3405
Denver, CO 80202-3937
(303) 291-3200

Date: 8-22-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
COFFIN, Paul, C., et al.)
Serial No. 09/729,870) Examiner: Beacham, C.R.
Filing Date: December 5, 2000) Art Unit: 2653
For: REAR-FACING AUTOCHANGER) Conf. No.: 6798
BAR CODE READER)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

The paragraph on page 4, lines 1-13 has been amended as follows:

--A rack-mount storage system according to one embodiment of the present invention may comprise an equipment cabinet that defines at least one device opening therein. A first device sized to be received by the first device opening defines a first mounting pathway therein. The first device has a chassis that is sized to receive at least one component of the first device and that also defines at least a portion of the first mounting pathway. A support spar sized to be received by the first mounting pathway and being sized to engage said equipment cabinet[,]
and extend substantially between first and second sides of the equipment cabinet engages the first mounting pathway and the equipment cabinet to support said first device in the equipment cabinet.--

In the Abstract:

The paragraph on page 28, lines 2-14 has been amended as follows:

--A rack-mount storage system [according to one embodiment of the present invention may comprise] comprises an equipment cabinet that defines at least one device opening therein. A

first device sized to be received by the first device opening defines a first mounting pathway therein. The first device has a chassis that is sized to receive at least one component of the first device and that also defines at least a portion of the first mounting pathway. A support spar sized to be received by the first mounting pathway and being sized to engage said equipment cabinet[,] and extend substantially between first and second sides of the equipment cabinet engages the first mounting pathway and the equipment cabinet to support said first device in the equipment cabinet.--

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 7, and 14-16 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A rack-mount storage system, comprising:
an equipment cabinet having a first side and a second side, said equipment cabinet defining at least one device opening therein;

a first device sized to be received by the device opening, said first device defining a first mounting pathway therein, said first device having a first chassis sized to receive at least one component of said first device, at least a portion of said first chassis defining at least a portion of said first mounting pathway; and

a support spar being sized to be received by the first mounting pathway and being sized to engage said equipment cabinet, said support spar extending substantially transversely between the first and second sides of said equipment cabinet to support said first device in said equipment cabinet.

7. (Amended) The rack-mount storage system of claim 1, wherein [said equipment cabinet includes a first side and a second side and wherein] said support spar engages the first and

second sides of said equipment cabinet.

14. (Amended) A rack-mount storage system having an equipment cabinet and at least one device opening therein, comprising:

5 a first device sized to be received by the first device opening, said first device defining a first mounting pathway therein, said first device having a first chassis sized to receive at least one component of said first device, at least a portion of said first chassis defining
10 at least a portion of said first mounting pathway; and

a support spar being sized to be received by the first mounting pathway and being sized to engage said equipment cabinet, said support spar engaging the first mounting pathway and said equipment cabinet, said support spar extending substantially transversely between first and
15 second sides of said equipment cabinet to support said first device in said equipment cabinet.

15. (Amended) A rack-mount storage system, comprising:

equipment cabinet means for defining at least one device opening therein;
20

device means for defining at least one mounting pathway therein, said device means having housing means for housing at least one component of said device means, said housing means defining at least a portion of said at least
25 one mounting pathway; and

support means for engaging said at least one mounting pathway defined by said device means [and], for engaging said equipment cabinet means, and for extending
30 substantially transversely between first and second sides of said equipment cabinet, said support means supporting said device means within said at least one device opening defined by said equipment cabinet means.

16. (Amended) A rack-mount storage system, comprising:
an equipment cabinet having a first side and a second
side, said equipment cabinet defining at least one device
opening therein;

5 a first device sized to be received by the device
opening, said first device having a chassis sized to
receive at least one component of said first device, a
portion of the chassis defining at least a portion of a
first mounting pathway; and

10 a support spar sized to be received by the first
mounting pathway and to engage said equipment cabinet, said
support spar engaging the first mounting pathway and said
equipment cabinet, said support spar extending
substantially transversely between the first and second
15 sides of said equipment cabinet to support said first
device in said equipment cabinet.